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State of Illinois
Pat Quinn, Governor

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Doug Scott, Director

Tutty Baker Park Former Gas Station
Freeport, Illinois

ILLINOIS
DEPOSITORY
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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

INTRODUCTION

In many Illinois communities, there are abandoned gas stations or other facilities with no responsible party to pay for cleaning up leaking underground storage tanks. These environmental hazards prevent economic revitalization across the state. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) intends to close out as many abandoned or orphaned leaking underground storage tank (Leaking UST) sites as possible and issue a No Further Remediation Letter to facilitate the redevelopment of the property for productive re-use as quickly as possible.

THE THREAT OF CONTAMINATION

Leaking USTs are a significant source of environmental contamination and may pose the following threats to human health and safety:

- fire and explosion;
- inhalation of dangerous vapors;
- contamination of soil and groundwater;
- contamination of drinking water;
- contamination of streams, rivers, and lakes.

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Illinois
Environmental
Protection Agency

Office of Community Relations
1021 N. Grand Avenue East
Springfield, Illinois 62702

October 2009

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA
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CORRECTIVE ACTION: AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTME

As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), U.S. EPA has provided funding to Illinois EPA and other states to pay address these threats. Illinois EPA plans to use its current remediation consultants and contractors to investigate and perform the necessary clean-ups.

Corrective action at the former gas station at Tutty Baker Park, located at 437 South Adams Street, will involve abandoning existing groundwater monitoring wells, removal of underground fuel storage tanks and excavation of contaminated soil. Previous sampling of groundwater did not reveal any contamination. Also, the City of Freeport approved a groundwater ordinance restricting the use of groundwater within municipal boundaries, which provides further assurance against exposure of residents to contaminants. State contractor, Apex Companies, LLC, will complete the remediation work during the month of November 2009. The Illinois EPA expects to issue the Freeport Park District a No Further Remediation letter by February 2010.

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http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/economic-stimulus/index.html - Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program Information